

## Meeting Minutes - 4/20/06

### Committee for Citizen Involvement

**CCI Members Present:** Sue Carver, Basil Christopher, Bev Froude, Brian Kelly, Trisha Swanson, Stacie Yost

**CCI Members Absent:** Rick Parker, Teddi Duling, Bill Scheiderich

**Staff Present:** Duane Roberts

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Committee Chair Basil Christopher called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

Basil asked committee members to forward any meeting minute emendations directly to Duane after the meeting. (None received.)

#### 3. Requests to Council

Basil introduced this agenda item. He asked the group if they wished to recommend to Council that the City provide a community presentation on "Meth Awareness in our Community". The purpose would be to teach Tigard residents how to recognize and deal with a possible Meth problem in their neighborhoods. Duane commented that he had talked to the City Police outreach officer, Jim Wolf, about this idea. Jim mentioned that the Washington Sheriff's office had created a movie on this topic, which recently has been shown in various Tigard public schools. If Jim were directed to put together a public awareness presentation, he would include this movie in the program, together with two City police officers who specialize in narcotics work.

A group discussion followed. Most were in favor of formally recommending to Council the scheduling of a community presentation. The Library Community Room was thought to be the most appropriate location for such a presentation. Brian commented that *how* the event was advertised would be critical to its success. The more grass roots the promotional effort, the better.

Potential promotional tools could include:

- ❖ email to people who have completed the Citizen's Police Academy;
- ❖ library posters;
- ❖ an announcement in the *Community Connectors* e-newsletter;

- ❖ notices to all homeowners associations;
- ❖ cable TV notices
- ❖ school newsletter notices

The consensus was to formally recommend to Council that:

- ❖ a public program on “Meth Awareness” be provided by the City;
- ❖ that it be offered as many times as seems appropriate;
- ❖ that the most suitable location for the presentation is the Library Community Room; and
- ❖ that the program be extensively advertised.

Basil introduced the second request to Council under this agenda item: Inviting Senator Ron Wyden to hold one of his periodic town hall-type meetings in Tigard sometime during 2006-07. The rationale for this request is that during his years in office the Senator has held several town hall meetings in Beaverton, but none in Tigard. Bringing Senator Wyden to Tigard would encourage him to speak to Tigard’s concerns and would “put Tigard on the map.” The consensus of those present was to support this recommendation. *(As directed by the CCI, a memo containing this recommendation was forwarded to Council. Copy attached.)*

#### **4. Current City Communications with the Community: Additional Methods.**

Basil explained that this agenda item related to how messages go out to the community. One of the goals the CCI has set for itself is identifying effective communication methods. A table in the library lobby or a booth at the Farmer’s Market are examples of additional ways to gather information on community attitudes. Once the Neighborhood Groups are established, they too could become an effective communication device. Washington Square was mentioned as a potential location to conduct a survey of community attitudes. Brian pointed out that Washington Square is a regional shopping facility and that most of the shoppers there are non-Tigard residents. The group proceeded to list communication outlets presently used by the City.

These include:

- ❖ The City website
- ❖ *Cityscape*
- ❖ Planning notices
- ❖ Public mailings
- ❖ “Community Connector” e-mails
- ❖ *The Tigard Times*
- ❖ The SW Metro Section of *The Oregonian*
- ❖ Public meetings
- ❖ The Volunteer Program

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays Council Meetings. (Stacie facilitates these meetings and explained that they are an opportunity for citizens to ask questions of Council and to lobby or advocate on behalf of a personal interest.)

New ideas put forward by the group included:

- ❖ Coffee meetings on Saturday
- ❖ A once a year “open house” featuring representatives of all boards and committees. (Stacie suggested that these be held more than once per year. Trisha commented that many people are unaware that anyone can apply to serve on any of the City boards and committees.)
- ❖ Lawn signs

## 5. Comprehensive Plan Follow-Up

Duane provided information on this item. Beth was unable to attend tonight’s meeting, but is available for the June CCI meeting. A number of approaches have been proposed to help the community become involved in the Comprehensive Plan Update process. These include:

- ❖ The Planning Commission acting as the steering committee and conducting public work sessions,
- ❖ CCI check-ins throughout the process,
- ❖ other board and committee update presentations,
- ❖ tabloids sent to all City households,
- ❖ “Cityscape” articles,
- ❖ Website stories, and
- ❖ an interested party e-list.

Information recently became available on the webpage for the first time, with on-going updates proposed. The CCI idea of involving high school students will be explored. Basil commented that a preliminary list of the items the update will address in the form of a matrix would be helpful to public involvement efforts. Most important is providing opportunities for the public to participate in the planning process, as well as how the update effort will be explained. The overuse of “plannerese” terminology may be off-putting to some people. Open house meeting formats tend to be very inviting and friendly.

## 6. Community Input

As an introduction to this item, Basil asked the question, “What is sufficient community input?” Brian commented that input, and opportunity for input, are two different things.

A small turnout in the number of people who participate in an activity doesn't necessarily mean that the City or group in question didn't provide ample opportunities for input. The community decides for itself what is sufficient input. All the City can do is to provide the opportunity. Bev commented that, in the case of the Downtown Plan, the City devoted a lot of time and money to publicizing the planning effort. Stacie commented that you can never reach everyone.

Basil suggested that the CCI might want to investigate and develop a list of effective ways of communicating and "getting the word out" about a particular issue or topic of concern. Brian brought up the idea of a library kiosk with a secure video display feature as a new way of disseminating information. Other methods were discussed under agenda item number four.

## **7. HWY 99W Improvement Plan Public Involvement**

Duane mentioned that the project consultant team had not yet been selected. He also mentioned that the project work scope has not been finalized.

## **8. Other Business/Announcements/Next Agenda**

Trisha announced that she is retiring from the CCI as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board representative effective this month. Brian mentioned that, as of the end of June, he is retiring as the Library Board representative.

### **Possible agenda topics for the next meeting:**

- ❖ Neighborhood Program update;
- ❖ Feedback on CCI recommendations to Council;
- ❖ "Get acquainted" meeting with new webpage staff person;
- ❖ Display space in the library lobby area, including a permanent City kiosk with streaming notices;
- ❖ Current City communications; and
- ❖ Summer meeting break.